

Amendments to the claims:

The following is a listing of the claims that were amended by the reply filed on August 28, 2006. The indicated changes are made relative to the issued patent.

1. (Twice Amended) A device for handling money, including:
a money handling apparatus;
an internal controller for controlling the money handling apparatus;
a first port for removable connection to an external controller for communication with the internal controller; and
a second port for removable connection to a further device for handling money;
wherein the internal controller is arranged to communicate over the second port with the further device using a communications protocol; and
wherein the communications protocol supports [enables] communication between the internal controller and any one of at least first and second different types of device for handling money, the first type handling money of a different type from those handled by the second type.
8. (Twice amended) A device for handling money, including:
a money handling apparatus;
an internal controller for controlling the money handling apparatus;
a first port for removable connection to an external controller for communication with the internal controller; and
a second port for removable connection to a further device for handling money for communication with the internal controller;
wherein the internal controller is arranged to copy the content of at least some signals between the first port and the second port without modification thereof.